

## THE AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The last report of the American Bible Society which we have seen, viz. that for 1859, presented several very encouraging features. The receipts amounted nearly to \$436,000 00, being an increase of upwards of \$20,000. There was a large increase also in the issues. We fear that the civil conflicts which have been agitating the country must have exerted an injurious effect on the operations of the Bible Society as of other religious and benevolent Societies. Let us pray that our neighbors may soon have peace within their borders, and that God may overrule present troubles for the overthrow of oppression and bondage, and for the advancement of the cause of liberty, and of pure and undefiled religion.

## THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

Each year adds greatly to the extent of the operations of the British and Foreign Bible Society. Last year the total income amounted to £164,136 6s. 5d. being an increase over the receipts of the preceding year of upwards of £4,000. During the year 1859, 60, an extraordinary increase in the issues took place. The issues for the year exceeded those of the preceding year, by 291,912, Copies, and amounted in all to 1,917,897 Copies. Our space will not allow us to trace the operations of the Society in every field. The truth is, there is scarcely a country in any quarter of the Globe, in which the Bible Society has not effected a footing. Spain is in a great measure still closed against the Bible. In Japan there are hindrances and impediments still in the way of Bible circulation. But in almost every other land, more or less is done, and the work in several places is most encouraging. In France, notwithstanding opposition from the local authorities in some cases, and priestly denunciations in others, the success attending the operations of the Bible Society is very remarkable. Colportage is largely carried on, and there is good evidence that the Bible is not only circulated, but is read and pondered. In Italy there has been a wide door and effectual. Recent events connected with the political condition of Italy have had a very powerful effect on the state of mind of the people, and now the Bible is openly bought in Towns, where, a short time ago, it would have been almost impossible to put even a single copy in circulation. May the good seed of Bible truth take deep root in the soil of the Italian mind, and then we need not fear the consequences of the changes which have recently been taking place. In Turkey the Bible cause is in a most interesting and hopeful state. During the past year 24,720 Copies were circulated in Turkey in no fewer than thirty languages. A Colporteur is employed in Constantinople, and the Bible has been sold even within the walls of a Mahomedan Mosque. May the fabric of Islamism soon crumble into ruins, and Christianity again flourish in those regions, where were once the seven Churches of Asia, and in other portions of the Turkish empire.

In India the friends of the Bible have been disappointed. The storm has passed away. The wave of rebellion and carnage has been arrested and turned back. But with the passing storm, there has disappeared in a great measure, the anxiety in regard to the spiritual condition of India. Still something has been done.

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